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COUNTRY: Egypt.

SUBJECT: General Feeling of Egyptians Toward  
UK and US.

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1. Q. What is the general feeling of Egyptians toward the UK?
2. A. I met a few older upper-class Egyptians who might be termed pro-British. They recognize Britain's contribution to Egypt--not as something in a positive concept--but more as an aid to pointing out deficiencies in Egyptian education, technical progress, approach to living equally, and competitively in the modern world. I have heard this type attitude expressed in discussions of Egyptians' lack of care and preservation of British installations, buildings, schools, etc. A few frankly admit that Egypt will not care for, or maintain the Canal Zone if they get the chance. An interesting note to this partial rejection of their own people is the common preference of the educated upper-class Egyptians for the society and company of the European or Westerner.
3. These upper-class Egyptians are much in the minority; the near universal attitude is one of unreasoning hate for the British. Any aspect of Egyptian life that leaves anything to be desired is blamed upon the British, such as an individual's laziness, poorly-learned lessons of youth, increasingly lower school and university standards, lack of trained personnel, high prices, lack of markets for cotton, beggars on the streets, etc. The mass of the population has made a scapegoat of the British for any thing that displeases them.
4. I know a well-educated Egyptian with two degrees from English universities, who apes the English, will not associate informally with his own nationals, refuses to marry one of his nationals, and who is in possession of a fine library of English literature. Despite his obvious enjoyment of English literature, he will be so unreasoning as to deny anything good exists in the literature.
5. Q. What is the general feeling of Egyptians toward the US?
6. A. Egyptians when convenient recognize the US to be different from the UK. Passive recognition was made of US-influence in the settlement of the Sudan question, practically never in case of other types of aid.
7. The US is criticized in terms of the cliches of journalism as prepared by, at best, a careless, if not irresponsible, press. Discussion of world events is carried on with this journalistic intelligence. Phrases such as

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7. A. "imperialist", "Jewish monopoly of press and radio", "worship of nothing but money", "followers of British policy", etc. appear with reference to the US. The US is universally condemned for the sell-out to the Jews and provision of arms that allowed the Jews to wrest the Israeli state out of the Levant. They were most anxious for the Republican victory in the last election, but two weeks after that victory, criticized the new administration in the same vein. During the Korean War, the US was frequently termed "aggressor".
8. The Egyptians want help badly from the US, but they want it in great amounts, in a hurry, with no strings, and seem to believe that the US if they want to help, can miraculously remake the face of Egypt. A calm, responsible professor (now enroute to the US under the Smith-Mundt Program) intimated to me in our last discussion that if the US didn't help them in their troubles with Britain and economically, Egypt would turn to the USSR or elsewhere to get help.
9. The US is not disliked to the degree the British are, nor for the same reasons, and there seems to be an aura of defensive distrust and jealousy towards the US. The very young, from eight to fourteen years, are fascinated by America, but they are unlike their elders in many ways, because they show eagerness for learning and some ambition and honesty in the process.
10. Nearly always the first comment or question inserted into a conversation with Egyptian Universities would concern the discrimination of the US Negro. Josephine Baker, Paul Robson, Marian Anderson, cases would be mentioned specifically. In the Sudan, I lectured twice to students whose first questions were about the Negro and the Korean War. When I spoke frankly and honestly about the Negro question I was called a "propagandist". These students did not believe me when I told them US colleges would admit them.

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